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XXI.

*An Account from James Burrow Esq; F.R.S. of
what Mr. Boyfield told him concerning the
late Earthquake.*

Friday, March 16, 1749.

Read March 22. **M**R. *Josiah Boyfield*, of *Gravel-*
1749. *Lane*, near *St. George's Fields*,
Southwark, told me, that at the Time of the Earth-
quake, on *Thursday* Morning the 8th instant, he
was not far from his Canal, and that it was a clear
still Morning; the Air (as he expressed it) as clear
as a Bell, with not a Breath of Wind stirring. As
clear as a Bell, except that small Hazeiness which
there almost always is in the Morning-Air.

He heard, he said, a great Noise like Thunder;
which he at first took to be the Report of Ship-
Guns; and immediately after the Ground shook and
trembled under him, and he heard his Men say,
Look at the Fish. The Sound came from the South-
East, and moved to the West or North-West, over
Westminster: It went off rattling like ten thousand
Cannon; and he thought that *Westminster-Abbey*,
and all that Part of the Town was coming down.
The Sound preceded the Motion, and was ended
before the Motion ceased.

He went, he says, nearer to the Canal, and saw
the Water much disturbed; but he did not himself
actually see the Fish leap out of the Water: How-
ever, some of his Men, whose Account he can de-
pend upon, saw several Roach leap up, and saw the Fish
in

in general shoot away in all Sorts of Directions, and seem to shift for themselves, as if they were frightened and alarmed at what had happened.

XXII.

*Observations on the Earthquake, March 8.
1749. by C. Mortimer, M.D. Secr. R. S.*

Devonshire-street, near Queen's-Square.

Read March 22.
1750. ON Thursday Morning, March 8.
1749. I awaked a little after Five;
I open'd my Curtains, and observed the Sky hazy: I
drank a Draught of Water, and, looking, on my Watch,
found it to be but half an Hour past 5; and there-
fore was going to lie down again in my Bed; when,
leaning upon my right Elbow, I first felt a Shock,
as if the whole House was violently pushed from
the NW to the SE and then, with equal Force,
pushed back again from SE to NW between
which Shocks I heard a dull Noise; as if something
heavy, but soft, rolled to and-fro' in the Garret over
my Head. I saw the Cornice and Ceiling of the
Room sensibly move, and then perceived a third
and fourth Shock, so slow as to give me Time to
reflect what might be the Event; and then a fifth and
sixth, which I own began to frighten me; the
Strokes seeming to be exceeding strong; not at all
like a quaking or tremulous Motion, but like a forcible
Shoving backwards and forwards; much resembling
the Rocking of a Coach, when crossing the Rutts, or
giving Way to another Carriage. My Son, who lay
in the next Room called out in the midst of it to know
I what